

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are pending in the instant application. Claims 1-9 are subject to restriction and an election requirement.

Response to Election/Restriction Requirement

The Examiner has required a restriction of the claimed invention under 35 U.S.C. 372 from the following groups:

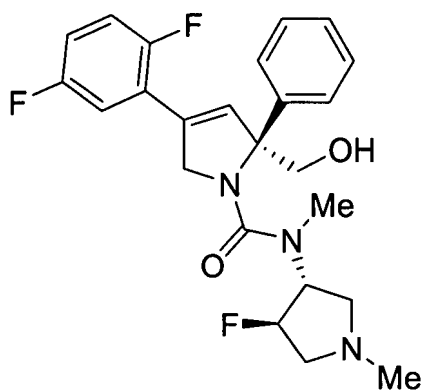
- I. Claims 1-6 are drawn to a compound of formula I according to claim 1, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, or stereoisomer thereof.
- II. Claims 7-9, are drawn to a method of using the compound according to claim 1 for preparation of a medicament useful in treating or preventing cancer in a mammal in need of such treatment.

The Examiner suggests that the claims of Groups I-II do not relate to a single general inventive concept, because they lack the same corresponding special technical feature.

Applicants respectfully elect Group I for examination.

Election

Applicants are required to elect a single disclosed species with a corresponding chemical structure for prosecution on the merits. Applicants hereby elect, as a species, compound 2-6a, which can be found on page 74 of the specification:



Applicants respectfully contend that Claims 1-6 are readable on the elected species.

If a telephonic communication with the Applicants' representative will advance the prosecution of the instant application, please telephone the representative indicated below. Applicants believe no additional fees are due but the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees required in connection with this response to Merck Deposit Account No. 13-2755.

Respectfully submitted,

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